

2014 SkillsUSA Kentucky

Leadership Conference &
Skills Championship
April 16-19 - Louisville, KY

Carpentry Competition



Sponsored by:



**Kentuckiana Construction
Users Council**

**Lumber supply donated to
winning secondary school**



**Held at the Indiana/Kentucky/Ohio
Regional Council of Carpenters Training Center**

Written by: Fran Dundon, SkillsUSA KY B & I Director – May 2014
Photos by Tim Thornberry

***Educated and Skilled
to Lead America***

***Carpentry winners with
contest sponsors and winnings***



Photo, (back row, l to r): Daren Thompson, KCUC President and Bill Hoffeld, NILCO.
Front row (l to r): Chris Rednour, Wayne Co. ATC (2nd); Tristan Gregg, Campbell Co. ATC (1st); and Bradley Shimfessel, Clark Co. ATC (3rd).

SkillsUSA KY Postsecondary Carpentry Winners

1st Place:

Kevin Sturgill

Somerset Community College
Laurel Campus

2nd Place:

Wallace Goodin

Somerset Community College
Laurel Campus



NILCO

*Photo (back row, l to r): Daren Thompson,
KCUC president and Bill Hoffeld, NILCO.*

Front row, l to r: Kevin Sturgill and Wallace Goodin.

2014 SkillsUSA Kentucky Carpentry Competition

Sponsored by KCUC

Lumber donation to winning school supplied by NILCO

For a second year, the Kentuckiana Construction Users Council (KCUC), an organization committed to safe, cost-effective construction and maintenance industry practices, sponsored the carpentry competition. KCUC member Dave Simmons served his second term as chairman of the competition and was impressed with the level of skill students displayed.

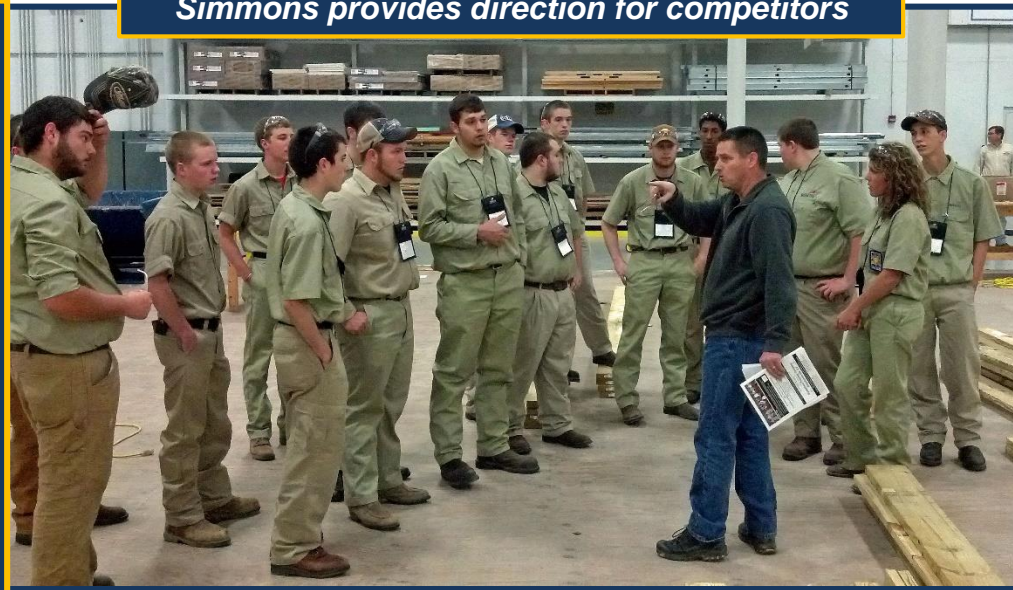
Partnerships once again provided an important ingredient for the 2014 SkillsUSA KY state conference to be a success – and KCUC's efforts and support have undoubtedly raised the carpentry competition bar. Not only did KCUC support the carpentry contest, this year the organization's monthly meeting was held at the Carpenter's Union so members would have an opportunity to observe the competition.

Dave Simmons:

“Once again, the character and professionalism exhibited by the carpentry contestants was inspiring. As an added bonus, this year's project was dedicated to helping out a local charity, Active Heroes. Troy Yocum, president of Active Heroes, was on hand to remind contestants of the importance of ‘giving back’ and thanked them for their hard work and contributions.

“On behalf of KCUC, I was honored to serve as chairman of the competition and thank all of our members who came out to help and observe.”

Simmons provides direction for competitors



For more information regarding KCUC, visit: <http://kcuc.org/>

Kentuckiana Construction Users Council President Daren Thompson recognized during Opening Ceremony



Daren Thompson
KCUC President
MSD Flood Supervisor:

"KCUC membership was energized in being the main sponsor of the carpentry contest at the 2014 SkillsUSA Kentucky State Skills Championship. As a construction trades and training organization, we are well in tune with workforce shortages that will occur over the next few years.

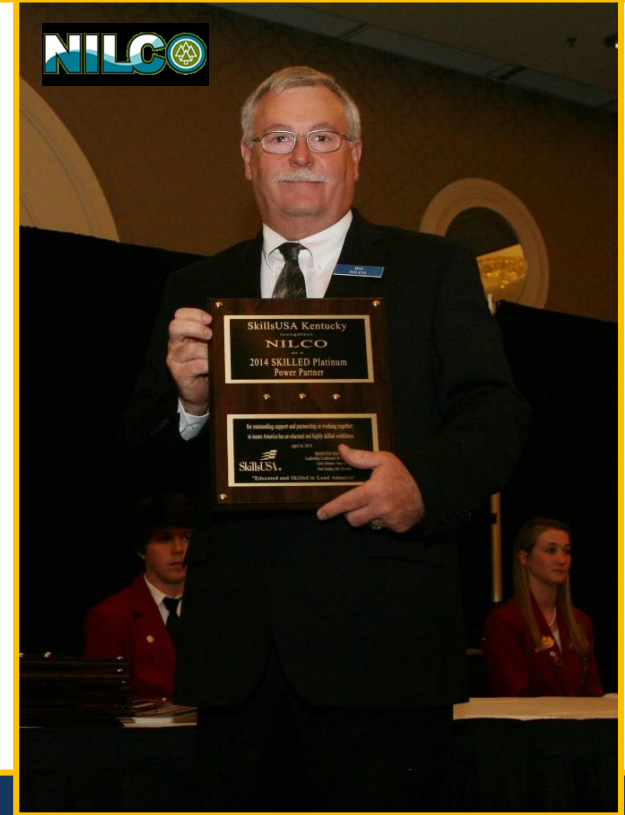
"Participating as judges in carpentry as well as other competitions was nothing short of rewarding. It provided us with a better understanding of the talent and skills levels of students who will be entering our industry over the next few years. We were all pleased to observe how students took pride in their work to compete for awesome prizes supplied by KCUC. It was great that we had an increased number of students in the competition this year and the level of skill exhibited by students was phenomenal. Members of our organization were also involved in judging leadership events and I was personally encouraged to see how well the students competed in Job Skill Demo O.

"KCUC understands the value of how SkillsUSA can help build skilled talent and we undoubtedly believe this will help bridge the gap in the skilled trades shortage. As members of KCUC, we are excited to be in a partnership with SkillsUSA to build what we want to see - the best talent pool in the nation. We look forward to continuing this partnership next year... and, to form collaborative efforts in building technical committees for the SkillsUSA National Conference coming to Louisville in 2015."

Bill Hoffeld, NILCO recognized during Opening Ceremony

In addition to KCUC providing industry judges, contest supplies and outstanding prizes for medalists, NILCO became a new member of SkillsUSA KY. A family owned national industrial lumber company, NILCO provided a lumber supply donation to the winning secondary carpentry and TeamWorks students so they would have enough product to practice for the national competition. The company also donated wood for the Carpentry 1 and TeamWorks competitions. Why? NILCO understands that SkillsUSA is a great asset because the membership is a skilled labor pool.

Bill Hoffeld, NILCO outside sales representative, was responsible for introducing the SkillsUSA KY business team to NILCO president Jim Smith and the result was a great donation. Additionally, Smith's daughter Lydia took part in the job/career fair. The entire SkillsUSA KY nation appreciates the support of NILCO.



Hoffeld:

"I'm proud to say that my involvement with SkillsUSA KY was one of the most life changing events in my career. NILCO got involved for one very obvious reason. We do not have enough young people trained to move into the businesses that support the construction segment. The funnel is empty and companies that thrive on this segment need skilled individuals to take the place of our aging industry."

"NILCO recognizes that this national organization needs support from the very people that will hire employees to fill this funnel. Our donation to Carpentry and TeamWorks was one way to support these dedicated high school individuals. Our next opportunity for support is the K4C Construction Career Days event in September."

"Thank you for opening our eyes to this great organization."

2014 SkillsUSA Kentucky Carpentry Winner

Tristan Gregg, Campbell Co. ATC - 1st place



Gregg:

"Being involved in SkillsUSA has been a great experience and I want to thank my instructor David Lawson for helping me get to the state conference and being such a great teacher."

"I know that our carpentry competition would not be what it is today without the sponsorship of KCUC. We all appreciate what they are doing to provide an outstanding competition for us. That said, winning great DeWALT tools donated by KCUC is hitting the nail on the head. My first place prize package is something that I will use in my career. Thank you for providing top of the line tools for all the winners."

"And I also want to thank NILCO for the lumber supplies. Mr. Lawson picked up all the supplies after the conference and brought it all back to school. Now, we have a whole lot more wood to practice with for the national conference."

David Lawson
Carpentry Instructor
Campbell Co. ATC:

"The outstanding support of KCUC for the carpentry contest makes all of my students want to compete. As an instructor of the trade, I know the value of industry experts and appreciate their willingness to judge the skills of our students. My students believe they have a future in the industry."

The extra lumber supplies from NILCO are greatly appreciated because our school supply budget is tight and this donation gave us a lot to work with for carpentry and TeamWorks winners."



**Kentuckiana
Construction
Users Council**



2014 SkillsUSA Kentucky Carpentry Winners

Chris Rednour, Wayne Co. ATC, 2nd place

Bradley Shimfessel, Clark Co. ATC, 3rd Place

Bradley Shimfessel



**Jeffery McKinney,
Carpentry Instructor
Clark Co. ATC:**

"I want to take time to thank KCUC for their contributions to the SkillsUSA KY state carpentry winners. Senior Bradley Shimfessel is currently a third year carpentry student at Clark Co. ATC. He has given us great pride in his recent accomplishment by placing third in the SkillsUSA state carpentry competition. He not only received a medal for his achievement, but also a 12" DeWALT Miter saw valued at \$400 dollars. Bradley would also like to thank KCUC and SkillsUSA KY for making this happen."

Chris Rednour



**Mike Kindred, Principal
Clark Co. ATC:**

"KCUC has its priorities in the right place and is putting funding into the future workforce. We all thank KCUC for their outstanding support because we know how much difference this makes in our state conference.

"All of the students who competed in this and other events where industry personnel sets the standard have greatly benefitted. The experienced individuals who are investing time by judging and helping our SkillsUSA competitors are to be commended. Thank you."

Projects make it to “Active Heroes Retreat”

While many dots have been connected for this competition, another dimension was added. A very special home was found for the 8' picnic table project built by SkillsUSA carpentry competitors. Joey Summers, a Messer Construction employee, introduced the idea of donating the competition project to a worthy organization called “Active Heroes.”

SkillsUSA KY B & I director Fran Dundon met with Troy Yocum, president of the organization and invited him to the opening ceremony. His message resonated with the membership as he relayed American veterans would benefit from the donation. In addition to the 20 picnic tables, projects from the carpentry 1 (planter box) and welding fabrication (grill) contests were also donated to Active Heroes.

Picnic tables not completed during competition were finished by Steve Anderson and Johnny Sewell, Iroquois HS SkillsUSA advisors. A special thanks to both of these men for their willingness to spend extra time on Saturday morning to ensure a successful outcome.



*Troy Yocum
Kentucky Colonel
Operation Iraqi Freedom Veteran
Active Heroes Founder and President
Congressional Medal of Honor Citizen Honors Medal*

Yocum:

“Active Heroes is thrilled to work with SkillsUSA to help with our military family retreat! The experience has been amazing to see so many young adults helping to build picnic tables, grills and planter boxes that will be used by thousands of veterans and their families. We can’t thank the wonderful people with SkillsUSA enough for their support of our American heroes!”

Projects make it to “Active Heroes Retreat”



Going the extra mile to help Active Heroes

Middle row (l to r): Former SkillsUSA KY state officers Dakota Bray, Zach Evrard, Kristi Reeves, and SkillsUSA KY member Cody Wilson.

Former SkillsUSA KY state officer Jason Ballman was also part of the moving crew.

Kristi Reeves
Former SkillsUSA KY State Officer:

“Active Heroes is an astounding organization and having the honor of assisting in the production of the retreat was a true pleasure.

“It was also a great honor to represent SkillsUSA KY.”

Zachary Evrard
Former SkillsUSA KY State Officer:

“When Miss Fran asked me to help with the loading and delivery of these projects to the Active Heroes Retreat, I absolutely made time to take part and also asked Cody Wilson. It was inspiring and a great feeling to help out with what I truly believe is a great cause. Troy Yocum is awesome and we hope more chapters will help Active Heroes.”

Dakota Bray
Former SkillsUSA KY State Officer:

“After working with Troy Yocum and the others at Active Heroes, I fell in love with what they are doing. They have a clear vision and they intend to achieve all of their goals. I’m happy to have been part of the SkillsUSA KY team helping them and hope to have the opportunity to work with them again in the near future.”



Troy Yocum talks with and thanks students at the Carpenters Union.